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Matthias Kaiser

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SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

EXAMINER

MAHMOOD, REZWANUL

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/811,972	Applicant(s) KAISER, MATTHIAS	
	Examiner Rezwanul Mahmood	Art Unit 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the communication filed on March 12, 2007.

Response to Amendment

2. Claims 1-16 are pending in this office action.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaufman (US Patent 6,370,525) in view of Batchilo (US Publication 2003/0130837).

6. With respect to claim 1, Kaufman discloses a computer-implemented method for accessing relevant information in response to a search query (Kaufman: Column 2, lines 33-36), the method comprising:

receiving a document in response to the search query (Kaufman: Column 2, lines

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33-36; Figure 2);

identifying relevant segments of the document reflecting one or more relevant words (Kaufman: Column 2, lines 37-52);

Kaufman does not explicitly teach:

generating an intermediary document substantially dependent on the identified relevant segments, wherein the intermediary document includes the relevant segments.

However, Batchilo discloses claimed generating an intermediary document (a summarized document) substantially dependent on the identified relevant segments, wherein the intermediary document includes the relevant segments (Batchilo: Paragraph 37, lines 1-9; Paragraph 38, lines 1-21; Figure 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Batchilo with the teachings of Kaufman to have generated a summarized document or an intermediary document including identifications of the relevant segments for a system and method of automatically summarizing the contents of natural language documents stored in electronic or digital form (Batchilo: Paragraph 2, lines 1-3).

7. With respect to claim 2, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the method of claim 1, further including parsing the search query to create the one or more relevant words (Kaufman: Column 2, lines 37-52).

8. With respect to claim 3, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the method of

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claim 2, wherein identifying segments includes:

parsing the document into segments (Kaufman: Column 3, lines 11-48; Column 6, lines 1-8; Figure 2);

generating a word presence list for each segment using the one or more relevant words (Kaufman: Column 5, lines 9-31);

examining the segments based on the one or more relevant words (Kaufman: Column 8, lines 10-30); and

ranking the segments by relevance (Kaufman: Column 9, lines 34-39 and lines 57-67; Column 10, lines 1-8).

9. Claims 4-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kaufman in view of Batchilo as applied to claims 1-3 above, and further in view of Vu (US Publication 2002/0078091).

10. With respect to claim 4, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the method of claim 1,

However does not disclose explicitly:

creating links from a relevant information point to a position of the relevant information point in the document.

Vu, however, discloses hyperlinks from relevant documents pointing to a target document (Vu: Claims 1-5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at

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the time the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Vu with the teachings of Kaufman and Batchilo to have links to relevant documents pointing to a document for the benefit of a method and system for automatically summarizing the content of a target document (Vu: Paragraph 1, lines 2-3).

11. With respect to claim 5, Kaufman in view of Batchilo and further in view of Vu discloses the method of claim 1, further including the step of extending the list of relevant words using a knowledge base (Kaufman: Column 5, lines 9-31).

12. With respect to claim 6, Kaufman discloses a data processing system for providing improved access to relevant information, comprising:

an acquisition module for retrieving information relation to a plurality of documents in response to a search query (Kaufman: Column 2, lines 33-36; Figure 2);
and

a summarizing module for:

parsing the documents into segments (Kaufman: Column 3, lines 11-48;
Column 6, lines 1-8; Figure 2);

selecting one of the segments as a relevant information point based on the segment having one or more relevant words (Kaufman: Column 3, lines 11-48;
Column 8, lines 10-31);

Kaufman does not explicitly teach:

generating an intermediary document substantially dependent on the

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selected relevant information point, wherein the intermediary document identifies the selected relevant information point as claimed.

However, Batchilo discloses claimed generating an intermediary document (a summarized document) substantially dependent on the identified relevant segments, wherein the intermediary document includes the relevant segments (Batchilo: Paragraph 37, lines 1-9; Paragraph 38, lines 1-21; Figure 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Batchilo with the teachings of Kaufman to have generated a summarized document or an intermediary document including identifications of the relevant segments for a system and method of automatically summarizing the contents of natural language documents stored in electronic or digital form (Batchilo: Paragraph 2, lines 1-3).

13. With respect to claim 7, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the system of claim 6, wherein the summarizing module is a software program (Kaufman: Column 4, lines 48-55; Figure 1; Figure 2; Batchilo: Claim 25).

14. With respect to claim 8, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the system of claim 7, wherein the software program is a plug-in (Kaufman: Figure 1; Figure 2).

15. With respect to claim 9, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the system of claim 6,

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However, does not disclose explicitly:

intermediary document includes at least one of a plurality of links to specific locations in the search result documents.

Vu, however, discloses hyperlinks from relevant documents pointing to a target document (Vu: Claims 1-5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Vu with the teachings of Kaufman and Batchilo to have links to relevant documents pointing to a document for the benefit of a method and system for automatically summarizing the content of a target document (Vu: Paragraph 1, lines 2-3).

16. With respect to claim 10, Kaufman in view of Batchilo and further in view of Vu discloses the system of claim 6, wherein the application module is in a workstation (Kaufman: Figure 1; Column 4, lines 40-55).

17. With respect to claim 11, Kaufman in view of Batchilo and further in view of Vu discloses the system of claim 6, wherein the application module is an interactive website (Kaufman: Figure 1; Column 4, lines 40-60; Here if the user uses a search engine, user inherently uses an interactive website).

18. With respect to claim 12, Kaufman teaches search results in response to query (Kaufman: Column 2, lines 33-36; Figure 2), comprising:

a query parser for parsing a query to a search engine (Kaufman: Figure 2);
a document parser for parsing the original document into portions (Kaufman: Column 3, lines 11-48; Column 6, lines 1-8; Figure 2);
a relevance engine for identifying relevant portions of the original document by evaluating one or more words of the portions (Kaufman: Figure 2; Column 3, lines 11-48; Column 8, lines 10-31);

Kaufman does not explicitly teach:

a document generator for generating the intermediary document using the identified relevant portions, wherein the intermediary document is substantially dependent on the identified relevant portions.

However, Batchilo discloses claimed generating an intermediary document (a summarized document) substantially dependent on the identified relevant segments, wherein the intermediary document includes the relevant segments (Batchilo: Paragraph 37, lines 1-9; Paragraph 38, lines 1-21; Figure 1).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Batchilo with the teachings of Kaufman to have generated a summarized document or an intermediary document including identifications of the relevant segments for a system and method of automatically summarizing the contents of natural language documents stored in electronic or digital form (Batchilo: Paragraph 2, lines 1-3).

19. With respect to claim 13, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the apparatus of

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claim 12, wherein the original document includes sentences, and

wherein the relevance engine includes a sentence filter for determining which of the sentences has relevant information (Kaufman: Figure 2).

20. With respect to claim 14, Kaufman in view of Batchilo discloses the apparatus of claim 12,

However, does not disclose explicitly:

means for establishing links between portions of the intermediary document and corresponding portions in the original document.

Vu, however, discloses hyperlinks from relevant documents pointing to a target document (Vu: Claims 1-5).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art, at the time the invention was made, to combine the teachings of Vu with the teachings of Kaufman and Batchilo to have links to relevant documents pointing to a document for the benefit of a method and system for automatically summarizing the content of a target document (Vu: Paragraph 1, lines 2-3).

21. With respect to claim 15, Kaufman in view of Batchilo and further in view of Vu discloses the apparatus of claim 12, wherein the document parser is configured to generate at least one of a word presence list, a position list, and a sentence list,

wherein the word presence list indicates frequencies of words in the document, the position list indicates the position of words in the document, and the sentence list

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indicates the number of words in the document (Kaufman: Column 9, lines 57-67; Column 10, lines 1-8).

22. With respect to claim 16, Kaufman in view of Batchilo and further in view of Vu discloses the apparatus of claim 12, wherein the query parser adds to the query words that are semantically related to words in the query (Kaufman: Column 5, lines 9-31).

Conclusion

23. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

24. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The Chwa reference (US Publication 2006/0190979) teaches about parsing and summarizing documents. The Cohen reference (US Publication 2001/0044795) teaches about summarizing topics of documents accessed by a user.

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The Cao reference (US Publication 2005/0108266) teaches about receiving a document and summarizing the content. The Jiang reference (US Publication 2004/0044952) teaches about an information retrieval system. The Chang reference (US Publication 2003/0037043) teaches about information retrieval and summarizing the results.

Contact Information

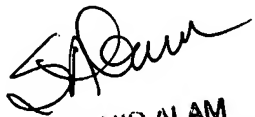
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rezwanul Mahmood whose telephone number is (571)272-5625. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 10 A.M. - 5 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571)272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Rezwanul Mahmood
Examiner
Art Unit 2164

May 25, 2007


SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER